

To: Montgomery, Michael[Montgomery.Michael@epa.gov]
From: Albright, David
Sent: Mon 2/9/2015 11:58:58 PM
Subject: FW: Times available

I talked to Nahal and she pushed back saying that we are still reviewing this and that if the reporter needed a quicker response, they should go to DOGGR and ask the question. Bravo.

From: Mogharabi, Nahal
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 2:28 PM
To: Albright, David
Cc: Montgomery, Michael; Zito, Kelly
Subject: FW: Times available

Please see follow up question from LA Times. I know we are not saying much at this point to folks, but is the below something we can confirm.....

From: Cart, Julie [<mailto:Julie.Cart@latimes.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 2:10 PM
To: Mogharabi, Nahal
Subject: RE: Times available

Nahal

My reading of page 4 of the DOGGR letter to EPA:

Category 3 Wells: Class II water disposal and EOR wells that are inside the surface boundaries of exempted aquifers, but that may nevertheless be

injecting into a zone not exempted in the primacy agreement

This review covers over 30,000 wells, more than 29,000 of which are cyclic steam wells in hydrocarbon

zones. Review of wells in Category 1 is nearing completion. Review of wells in Categories 2 and 3 is expected to be complete in early 2016 as annual project reviews are completed in compliance with regulation. When completed, this review will serve to clarify records and improve data quality so that the full review of the UIC program can be completed.

This seems to suggest that 29,000 cyclic steam wells are operating in aquifers that have been exempt, but injecting in zones outside of the boundaries of the exemption.

Is this correct?

JULIE CART

Staff Writer

Los Angeles Times

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From: Mogharabi, Nahal [<mailto:MOGHARABI.NAHAL@EPA.GOV>]

Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 11:12 AM

To: Cart, Julie

Subject: FW: Times available

Hi Julie,

My name is Nahal Mogharabi, I'm the EPA Contact here in Southern California. Kelly forwarded me your information. I'm happy to start working with you from here on out. As you

know, Kelly is schedule can be busy and it might be faster to work through me for any EPA information that you may need in the future.

I just wanted to respond to the below. Yes, EPA received a copy of the State's Program Revision Plan on Friday.

The state I believe also issued a press release this morning. Please let me know if you need me to forward that over to you in case you haven't seen it.

Best,

Nahal

From: Cart, Julie [<mailto:Julie.Cart@latimes.com>]
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2015 11:31 AM
To: Zito, Kelly
Subject: RE: Times available

K

Can you confirm (or not) that DOGGR sent EPA the required materials yesterday?

Can't find on their website and no response from them to my question.

Cheers

j

From: Zito, Kelly [<mailto:ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV>]
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 1:29 PM
To: Cart, Julie
Subject: RE: Times available

Hi Julie – It's our understanding that the state will release the plan as soon as they've sent it to EPA...

Kelly

From: Cart, Julie [<mailto:Julie.Cart@latimes.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 1:12 PM
To: Zito, Kelly
Subject: RE: Times available

K

Are you all going to release DOGGR's plan when you receive it today?

From: Zito, Kelly [<mailto:ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV>]
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 9:26 AM
To: Cart, Julie
Subject: RE: Times available

Hi Julie –

Here's what I have:

From the original list provided by the state last summer (which listed 532 disposal wells), 48 of them still have unknown TDS levels, because the data is unavailable. The information available indicates that the 48 are disposal wells and they are injecting into aquifers that have not been exempted. However, the aquifers being injected into by these 48 wells could be >10,000 ppm TDS (and therefore not in violation) or they could be injecting into sub-3,000 ppm TDS aquifers

(in violation and adding to the current total of 176 injecting into fresh aquifers), or somewhere in between – again, the aquifer quality is unknown.

Thanks-

Kelly

From: Cart, Julie [<mailto:Julie.Cart@latimes.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 10:11 PM
To: Zito, Kelly
Subject: RE: Times available

K

Quick follow up from today's interview:

Jared said that, in addition to the 176 wells DOGGR permitted to drill into clean water aquifers, there were an additional 279 injection wells operating in aquifers that meet federal clean water standards—3,000-10,000 TDS.

Then he said—"then there's another 48 with no TDS data at all."

Does that mean that there were 48 wastewater wells injecting into aquifers that were unclassified or that the state didn't know were exempt or not?

Thanks

julie

om: Zito, Kelly [<mailto:ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:08 AM
To: Cart, Julie
Subject: RE: Times available

Great – Yes, 9:30 works here. We will call you – just let me know what the best number is.

I will look for your questions today.

Best-

Kelly

From: Cart, Julie [<mailto:Julie.Cart@latimes.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 4:40 PM

To: Zito, Kelly

Subject: Re: Times available

9:30 is best.

I'll give you a rough list tomorrow or later today.

Who calls who?

Julie Cart

Staff Writer

Los Angeles Times

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On Feb 3, 2015, at 4:30 PM, "Zito, Kelly" <ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV> wrote:

Hi Julie – Can you make 9:30 Thurs morning or after 3:30 Thursday afternoon?

Let me know if either of those work for you and we can get something on the schedule.

Also let me know if you had specific technical questions that I may need to get in front of our water division experts.

Thanks-

Kelly

From: Cart, Julie [<mailto:Julie.Cart@latimes.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:28 AM

To: Zito, Kelly

Subject: oops

K

This was the week that I was going to start the DOGGR project.

I needed to finish some other stories, but looks like I waited too long.

Everyone furious with me for getting scooped.

Ever onward—since our conversation last month was off the record, is Jared available for a quick telephone interview this week on the Friday deadline and the state's injection program?

Cheers

j

JULIE CART

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